



SENATOR ROBERT D. GARTON

serving district 41: bartholomew and johnson counties

200 W. Washington Street • Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 • www.in.gov/S41

Bills on the Move

PUBLIC POLICY

SJR 7 begins the process for a Constitutional amendment that defines marriage as being between one man and one woman. Constitutional amendments must pass through two separately elected General Assemblies and then be voted on in a statewide referendum. If SJR 7 passes this year, and again in 2007 or 2008, it will appear on the statewide ballot in the 2008 general election.

Scheduled for discussion and a vote on Monday, February 17

HEALTH

SB 41 exempts non-profit organizations that offer food for sale at an event benefiting the organization from having certified food handlers, if they meet the following requirements: members of the organization prepare the food that will be sold, events should not last more than 30 days in a calendar year, the name of each member who prepared a food item is attached to the container, if it is brought in by a member of the organization. The need for this bill arose when it was discovered that a law that intended to make large gatherings more sanitary actually made things such as church potluck dinners illegal. A similar bill has already passed the House of Representatives.

Referred to Health and Provider Services Committee

TAX INCENTIVES

SB 1 is a major economic development bill that contains many ideas from Governor Mitch Daniels. The bill includes sales tax exemptions for research and development equipment and extends Venture Capital Investment Tax Credits. The bill also addresses Property Tax Investment Deductions.

Passed the Senate by a vote of 50-0

SB 231 moves the birthday cutoff for kindergarten enrollment from July 1 to Aug. 1 in 2006 and Sept. 1 in each subsequent year.

Passed Education and Career Development Committee 8-2

TRAFFIC SAFETY

SB 7 removes an exception in current Indiana law that doesn't require drivers of vehicles with truck license plates to wear a seatbelt. At this time, Indiana and Georgia are the only two states with this loophole. The bill also requires passengers in all vehicles to wear a safety belt. This measure passed the Senate last year, but died in the House of Representatives.

Passed the Homeland Security, Utilities, and Public Policy Committee 10-0

SB 570 starts a stoplight camera program in Indiana. Under this bill, ten cities would be allowed to install up to ten stoplight cameras. These mechanisms would take pictures of vehicles' license plates that are going through an intersection while the light is red. The still photographs are then sent to local law enforcement officials, who then may issue a citation of up to \$100.

Amended on Second Reading and awaiting a vote

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upcoming events in the indiana senate

- February 24 - Last Day to File and Adopt Committee Reports
- February 28 - Last Day for Second Readings
- March 1 - Last Day for Third Readings

SENATE FACTS

key information about the indiana senate

Membership: 50

Elected by: Voters of each district

Term of Office: State senators are elected to four-year terms. These terms are staggered in such a way that half of the 50 seats are subject to election every two years.

Qualifications: U.S. citizen; resident of Indiana for at least two years before the election; resident of the district for one year prior to the election; at least 25 years of age.

Presiding Officer: It is the constitutional duty of the lieutenant governor to serve as president of the Senate.

Session Length: Session commences the Tuesday after the second Monday in January each year, unless a different day or place is appointed by law. In odd-numbered years, session must adjourn no later than April 29. In even-numbered years, session must adjourn no later than March 13.

Administration: The Legislative Council is composed of 16 legislators, eight from the House of Representatives and eight from the Senate. The chairman rotates annually between the speaker of the House and the president pro tempore of the Senate. Council members set policy for interim activities, recommend rule changes, authorize studies and study committees, and review and supervise expenditures.

Salary: \$11,600 annually

SENATE DISTRICT 41

Adopted April 29, 2001
Effective November 5, 2002

This map is a visual representation of the district and is only for reference purposes. For a detailed description of this district, consult the Indiana Code.

